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Questions Booklet

January 1996



English 33

Part B: Reading

Grade 12 Diploma Examination

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January 1996
English 33 Part B: Reading
Questions Booklet
Grade 12 Diploma Examination

Description

Part B: Reading contributes 50% of the total English 33 Diploma Examination mark.

There are 70 questions in the Questions Booklet and 8 reading selections in the Readings Booklet.

Time: 2 hours. You may take an additional 1/2 hour to complete the examination.

Instructions

- Be sure that you have an English 33 Questions Booklet **and** an English 33 Readings Booklet.
- You may **not** use a dictionary, thesaurus, or other reference materials.
- On the answer sheet provided, use **only** an **HB** pencil to mark the correct or best answer for each question. Fill in the circle that corresponds to your answer. For example:

Which month has 31 days?

- A. February
- B. April
- C. November
- D. December

Answer Sheet

(A) (B) (C) ●

- Do not fold the answer sheet.
- Mark only one answer for each question.
- If you change an answer, erase your first mark completely.
- Answer all questions.



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- I. Read “Snake Dance” on pages 1 to 3 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 1 to 7.
1. Jerry’s uneasiness is **most directly** indicated in the statement
 - A. “He glanced at his watch and scowled” (line 6)
 - B. “He took a second cigarette out of his pocket and thrust it between his lips nervously” (lines 29–30)
 - C. “He thought he could hear the band in the distance” (lines 41–42)
 - D. “ ‘Well, Mom, I gotta hang up now’ ” (line 53)
 2. Jerry lies to his mother in order to
 - A. cover up his poverty
 - B. brag about his achievements
 - C. make things easier for his family
 - D. avoid the consequences of personal failure
 3. Jerry’s situation is **most clearly** revealed in
 - A. “ ‘Sure it’s a scholarship’ ” (lines 33–34)
 - B. “ ‘The gang’ll be here in a minute’ ” (line 53)
 - C. “ ‘I made two touchdowns’ ” (lines 55–56)
 - D. “ ‘Milk shake, Jerry!’ ” (lines 80–81)
 4. Jerry’s situation arouses in the reader the emotions of
 - A. shock and disbelief
 - B. amazement and disgust
 - C. sadness and compassion
 - D. disapproval and rejection
- Continued*

5. The “alumni” who provided Jerry with a “soft job” (line 64) were *actually* the
- A. coaching staff
 - B. fraternity members
 - C. old grads of the college
 - D. owners of Semple’s Drugstore
6. The situation revealed in the last paragraph is
- A. ironic
 - B. sinister
 - C. humorous
 - D. suspenseful
7. For the reader, the story’s ending creates a feeling of
- A. doubt
 - B. curiosity
 - C. horrified disbelief
 - D. sympathetic understanding

- II. Read “August’s Gravity” on page 4 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 8 to 14.**
8. The juxtaposition of dragonfly and pavement is “unkind” (line 2) because the
- A. speaker’s touch is an intrusion
 - B. dragonfly is at home in the air
 - C. dragonfly’s lack of caution is evident
 - D. speaker doubts the dragonfly’s flying expertise
9. The speaker’s use of the phrases “flopping helplessly” (line 5) and “fierce navigator” (line 18) creates
- A. parallelism
 - B. symbolism
 - C. contrast
 - D. humour
10. The wording that the speaker chooses in the phrase “this survivor from the times of Tyrannosaurus unable to survive much beyond the first frost” (lines 9–12) serves to create
- A. irony
 - B. hyperbole
 - C. personification
 - D. imitative harmony
11. The reference to “Tyrannosaurus” (line 10) serves to indicate dragonflies’
- A. aggressive nature
 - B. evolutionary status
 - C. impending extinction
 - D. ungraceful appearance

Continued

12. As it is used in the poem, the word “gravity” (title and line 15) relates not only to the magnetic pull of the earth but also to
- A. unfaithfulness
 - B. youthful vitality
 - C. heaviness of spirit
 - D. freedom from responsibility
13. The word “humiliation” (line 26) is similar in meaning to
- A. escape (line 13)
 - B. breeze (line 17)
 - C. indignity (line 20)
 - D. memories (line 27)
14. In the context of lines 27 to 33, the image “staring it into a dark speck in the darkening blue” (lines 32–33) suggests that the speaker is
- A. awed by the experience
 - B. wishing his son were with him
 - C. searching for memories of the past
 - D. hopeful that the dragonfly will return

III. Read the excerpt from *When You Comin Back, Red Ryder?* on pages 5 to 8 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 15 to 24.

15. The description of Stephen in the opening stage directions (italicized paragraph) suggests that he is trying to be
- A. a hypocrite
 - B. an introvert
 - C. a traditionalist
 - D. a non-conformist
16. The **most probable** reason that Stephen is drinking from a paper cup (line 7) is that he
- A. is in a hurry
 - B. knows that it will amuse Angel
 - C. wants to break one of Clark's rules
 - D. is careless about the environment
17. The word "*Exasperated*" (line 35) means
- A. totally confused
 - B. highly annoyed
 - C. somewhat amused
 - D. completely resigned
18. The description of Stephen as "*an unconscious parody . . . of the mid-fifties*" (opening stage directions) is reinforced when Angel says
- A. "It's stupid—callin somebody with brown hair Red" (lines 30–31)
 - B. "Gee, Stephen, I'm not the FBI or somebody. What are you so upset about?" (lines 70–71)
 - C. "You're outta style. Nobody's gonna pick up a boy dressed like you with his hair like yours" (lines 108–109)
 - D. "In the three weeks since the by-pass opened, Stephen, you know exactly how many customers you had in the nights?" (lines 123–124)

Continued

19. Stephen's remark about leaving town "Just as soon as I get somethin taken care of " (line 85) serves **primarily** to create
- A. mood
 - B. conflict
 - C. suspense
 - D. paradox
20. In context, Angel's response "Rye or whole wheat, Stephen?" (lines 95 and 98) functions as
- A. a pun
 - B. a symbol
 - C. an allusion
 - D. a metaphor
21. The quotation that **most directly** suggests that Angel is skeptical about Stephen's leaving town is
- A. "You're getting a back pack? How come?" (line 79)
 - B. "When? I mean . . . when?" (line 84)
 - C. "Where ya gonna go?" (line 89)
 - D. "Two hundred truck drivers? Uh-uh, I'm sorry, I have to call you on that one, Stephen" (lines 117–118)
22. The relationship between Stephen and Angel can be **best** described as one of
- A. habitual misunderstanding
 - B. familiar antagonism
 - C. shared restlessness
 - D. mutual respect

Continued

23. That Stephen may *not* act on his desire to leave town is **best** suggested by
- A. “I don’t like Stephen. I like Red” (line 32)
 - B. “No I ain’t gonna go *campin*. I’m gonna go gettin the hell outta this lousy little town is where I’m gonna go *campin*” (lines 82–83)
 - C. “My coffee’s cold. How d’ya like that?” (line 101)
 - D. “You think I’m gonna lower myself to ride with those other morons—you’re outta your mind” (lines 115–116)
24. The contrast between Stephen’s and Angel’s *morals* is revealed in
- A. “Clark can afford it, believe me” (line 9) and “That’s not the point, Stephen” (line 10)
 - B. “But *then* I did, and then’s when counts” (line 35) and “Who says *then’s* when counts?” (line 36)
 - C. “Whuddya, got home fries in your ears?” (line 74) and “Just that I didn’t hear what you said is all” (line 75)
 - D. “You wanna know exactly how many, Stephen?” (lines 124–125) and “No, I don’t wanna know how many” (line 126)

- IV. Read the excerpt from “Afternoon of an American Boy” on pages 9 to 12 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 25 to 33.**
- 25.** In the context of lines 4 to 6, for the writer, a girl who was “of special interest” is a girl who was
- A.** intermittently admired
 - B.** quiet and respectable
 - C.** young and attractive
 - D.** habitually watched
- 26.** The writer’s use of the word “enchanted” in his description of Eileen’s house as “enchanted territory” (line 9) suggests that, when he was an adolescent, he viewed Eileen as
- A.** a magical figure
 - B.** an exceptional beauty
 - C.** a sophisticated debutante
 - D.** an enthusiastic neighbour
- 27.** The word “attitude” as used in line 34 means
- A.** mental state
 - B.** spiritual quality
 - C.** physical posture
 - D.** emotional disposition
- 28.** The word “ferment” in the phrase “a ferment must have begun working in me” (lines 51–52) suggests that the writer now views his date at the New York tea dance as having been
- A.** a frightening idea that terrorized his thoughts
 - B.** a reasonable plan that sprang to mind immediately
 - C.** an intoxicating idea that developed relentlessly in his mind
 - D.** an impressive plan that demonstrated his sophistication of thought

Continued

29. A girl who is “blasé” (line 55) is one who is
- A. highly excitable
 - B. difficult to impress
 - C. exceptionally mean
 - D. willing to be cooperative
30. As the writer looks back (lines 53–68), he is amazed by the fact that he
- A. felt at home in New York City
 - B. was able to convince Eileen to be his date
 - C. can still remember the precise details of the day
 - D. had actually thought that his idea was a good one
31. The writer’s “[working] out everything in the greatest detail” (line 70) suggests his
- A. insecurity
 - B. confidence
 - C. amusement
 - D. egocentricity
32. The statement “I simply herded Eileen back all the long, dreary way to Mount Vernon” (lines 107–108) conveys the writer’s
- A. inability to perceive Eileen’s disappointment
 - B. state of mind following the calamitous date
 - C. boredom with the incident
 - D. lack of good manners
33. The irony in this excerpt results from the discrepancy between the writer’s
- A. anticipation and the actual events of the date
 - B. interests and skills and those of a typical male
 - C. dancing with his sister and dancing with Eileen
 - D. interest in Eileen and her agreement to go to the dance

V. Read the excerpt from “Black Waters” on pages 13 to 15 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 34 to 42.

34. The two statements “The cruise would not be routine” (lines 22–23) and “Cousins was not qualified to navigate the vessel in the sound” (lines 32–34) serve as examples of
- A. irony
 - B. paradox
 - C. symbolism
 - D. foreshadowing
35. In hindsight, the fact that the U.S. Coast Guard “had reduced the power of its radar” (lines 41–42) proved to be a
- A. responsible action
 - B. defensible decision
 - C. short-sighted decision
 - D. well-considered action
36. By recounting the details of the events immediately surrounding the *Exxon Valdez*’s grounding (lines 45–66), the writer establishes that a major problem in dealing with the oil spill was caused by
- A. time delays
 - B. faulty equipment
 - C. a lack of training
 - D. the ship’s defective hull
37. The tone of Captain Hazelwood’s comment “ ‘Yeah, this is the Valdez . . . We’ve fetched up hard on ground north of Goose Island off Bligh Reef, and evidently, we’re going to be here for a while’ ” (lines 50–55) would **most likely** suggest that he is attempting to appear
- A. nonchalant
 - B. regretful
 - C. horrified
 - D. amazed

Continued

38. The writer's concern for the environment is directly indicated in the statement
- A. "the *Valdez* struck an underwater mountain that tore eight holes in the supertanker's hull" (lines 45–48)
 - B. "And that was just the beginning of a killing that will continue for years" (lines 79–81)
 - C. "the oil slick looked oddly hypnotic" (lines 88–89)
 - D. "Thousands of feet of useless booms floated around the vessels as dozens of tugs and oil skimmers skittered about" (lines 97–100)
39. The writer supports his claim that the *Exxon Valdez* spill is a long-term ecological disaster by
- A. reporting the costs involved in cleaning up oil spills
 - B. referring to the impact of oil spills on populations of animals
 - C. outlining the plans for dealing with oil spills that have been proposed by the oil companies
 - D. including opinions concerning oil spills of scientists with the American Petroleum Institute
40. According to the article, the first major oil spill that occurred in Canada involved a ship named the
- A. *Exxon Valdez*
 - B. *Exxon Baton Rouge*
 - C. *Nestucca*
 - D. *Arrow*

Continued

41. In the last paragraph, which method of dealing with oil-tanker spills does the writer *criticize*?
- A. Cash reimbursements
 - B. Improved crew training
 - C. Efficient cleanup equipment
 - D. Rigorous industry-wide regulations
42. The writer's sense of outrage about the lack of responsibility surrounding the *Exxon Valdez* spill is **most strikingly** revealed by his choice of words in
- A. "The task of piloting the supertanker through the narrow Prince William Sound fell to third mate Gregory Cousins, for whom Hazelwood had left written instructions" (lines 27–32)
 - B. "Thousands of feet of useless booms floated around the vessels as dozens of tugs and oil skimmers skittered about" (lines 97–100)
 - C. "But in the wake of the *Valdez*, the oil-slick rhetoric congealed into broken promises and outright betrayals" (lines 119–122)
 - D. "The lessons lost make a long and varied list" (lines 177–178)

VI. Read Robin’s revised letter on pages 16 and 17 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 43 to 49.

- 43.** In revising the first sentence of paragraph 1, Robin has made effective use of
- A.** sentence fragments to provide contrast
 - B.** figures of speech to impress her reader
 - C.** word repetition to emphasize her opinion
 - D.** parallel structure to expand the image she is creating
- 44.** In paragraph 2, Robin changes the placement of the phrase “along with my cousins Wendy and John” in order to
- A.** achieve brevity
 - B.** improve clarity
 - C.** correct verb tense
 - D.** add sentence variety
- 45.** In paragraph 2, an error that Robin has not corrected can be found in her use of the word
- A.** believe
 - B.** heard
 - C.** along
 - D.** irregardless
- 46.** A word that is pronounced exactly like another word but that has a different meaning and is spelled differently is called a homonym. In this letter, Robin has misused the homonym
- A.** heard (third sentence, paragraph 2)
 - B.** to (last sentence, paragraph 3)
 - C.** their (first sentence, paragraph 4)
 - D.** our (last sentence, paragraph 4)

Continued

47. Robin adds the phrase “When I returned home” at the beginning of paragraph 4 in order to
- A. produce emphasis
 - B. provide transition
 - C. create vivid description
 - D. shift narrative point of view
48. In paragraph 4, Robin’s revisions “explore,” “abundant,” and “colourful” result in
- A. reduced formality of style
 - B. improved figures of speech
 - C. greater precision of meaning
 - D. more straightforward sentence structure
49. In paragraph 5, Robin should place a comma between
- A. “think” and “about” in the second sentence
 - B. “this” and “she” in the third sentence
 - C. “much” and “if” in the fourth sentence
 - D. “information” and “with” in the fifth sentence

VII. Read “Desks” on page 18 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 50 to 57.

- 50.** The phrase “as if all our talk of knowledge was over” (lines 3–4) suggests that the speaker sees the desks **primarily** as representing
- A. schooling
 - B. humanity
 - C. friendship
 - D. immaturity
- 51.** The word “moulds” (line 7) suggests **mainly** that the desks were
- A. obviously dated
 - B. carefully anchored
 - C. designed to be comfortable
 - D. intended to produce uniformity
- 52.** The speaker’s phrase “those moulds we tried to sleep in” (lines 7–8) suggests that he and his schoolmates were
- A. rash
 - B. unhappy
 - C. inattentive
 - D. antagonistic
- 53.** The speaker uses a play on words in
- A. “staggered / by the dozens” (lines 2–3)
 - B. “fall / awake” (lines 9–10)
 - C. “final destination” (line 12)
 - D. “we might yet come” (line 16)

Continued

54. The phrase “oblivious to” in line 13 means
- A. responsive to
 - B. perceptive of
 - C. unaware of
 - D. resigned to
55. The phrases “the one question with no answer” (lines 10–11) and “the flames I hadn’t guessed” (lines 17–18) suggest that
- A. school does not prepare us for some of life’s experiences
 - B. ignorance can be eliminated through education
 - C. wisdom cannot be gained through experience
 - D. learning ends after we graduate from school
56. The fact that seeing the desks has had an impact on the speaker is **most clearly** expressed in
- A. “student desks battered, staggered / by the dozens” (lines 2–3)
 - B. “no math, no art, / no birds to stare at” (lines 6–7)
 - C. “Quiet as a study hall, / this big place” (lines 11–12)
 - D. “scared, new, / bird-eyed, not knowing why I came” (lines 23–24)
57. The shift from staring at birds in line 7 to becoming bird-eyed in line 24 suggests the speaker’s
- A. romantic nature
 - B. guilty conscience
 - C. loss of imagination
 - D. change in perspective

VIII. Read “To Everything There Is a Season” on pages 19 to 23 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 58 to 70.

- 58.** In the narrator’s prologue, the sentence “As we step into its nowness we often look behind” (line 8) indicates that Christmas **most clearly** embodies
- A. reminiscence
 - B. sociability
 - C. eagerness
 - D. freedom
- 59.** The phrase “attempted perpetuation” (line 35) refers to the narrator’s
- A. love of the high seas
 - B. endeavour to deceive Kenneth
 - C. stories of Halloween and Christmas
 - D. desire to keep his belief in Santa Claus alive
- 60.** The phrase “unadulterated fervour” (line 41) means
- A. moderate hopefulness
 - B. total commitment
 - C. occasional doubt
 - D. slight skepticism
- 61.** The narrator’s tone in the statement “Their longed-for son and our golden older brother is here at last” (lines 104–105) is **most closely** paralleled by the tone in
- A. “For us it is impossible to know the time or manner of his coming” (line 93)
 - B. “He laughs and shouts and lifts us over his head and swings us in his muscular arms” (lines 125–126)
 - C. “Eagerly I show him the fir tree on the hill which I have been watching for months and marvel at how easily he fells it and carries it down the hill” (lines 130–132)
 - D. “I look at my magic older brother who has come to us this Christmas from half a continent away, bringing everything he has and is” (lines 185–186)

Continued

62. The fact that the young men tie cords to the windshield wipers' arms (line 113) demonstrates their
- A. resourcefulness
 - B. carelessness
 - C. thrift
 - D. pride
63. When the young men arrive, the mother brings out the fruitcake that she has been "carefully hoarding" (line 118). This indicates that she considers Neil's homecoming to be
- A. a formal event
 - B. a significant occasion
 - C. an entertaining episode
 - D. an unanticipated occurrence
64. The fact that the children "lean on the furniture or look from the safety of sheltered doorways" (lines 118–119) suggests that they are feeling
- A. timid
 - B. weary
 - C. relieved
 - D. contented
65. In context, the statement "We fall over one another in the excitement of decoration" (lines 132–133) suggests **mainly** the children's
- A. cooperation and precision
 - B. carelessness and confusion
 - C. joyfulness and boisterousness
 - D. awkwardness and embarrassment
66. The phrase "cherry-red horseshoes" (line 137) conveys the
- A. size of the metal
 - B. hardness of the metal
 - C. intensity of the metal's heat
 - D. beauty of the metal's shape

Continued

67. The short, emphatic sentence “We are never cold” (line 152) effectively conveys the children’s
- A. drowsiness
 - B. contentment
 - C. confusion
 - D. surprise
68. The “tableau” (line 187) remembered by the narrator conveys **mainly** the
- A. family’s concern about the father’s health
 - B. ongoing spontaneity of the family members
 - C. loving bond connecting the family members
 - D. family’s despair over its anticipated separation
69. The family member who **most** fulfills the traditional role of Santa Claus is the
- A. father
 - B. mother
 - C. narrator
 - D. older brother
70. One important idea developed in this story is that we are often
- A. nurtured and sustained by our memories
 - B. delighted at the prospect of becoming an adult
 - C. saddened by the injustice inherent in family life
 - D. disappointed by the commercialism of Christmas

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